

Oxford Democrat.

No. 52, Vol. 3, New Series.

Paris, Maine, Tuesday, May 7, 1844.

Old Series, No. 10, Vol. 13.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY

George W. Ellis,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:—One Dollar and Fifty cents in advance. Advertisements inserted on reasonable terms. The Proprietor not being accountable for any error beyond the amount charged for the advertisement. A reasonable deduction will be made for cash in advance, and no credit will be given for a longer period than three months.

COMMUNICATIONS AND LETTERS on business must be Post-Paid to insure attention.

Book and Job Printing Executed with neatness and despatch.

POETRY.

The following sweet little poem is from a son of Allen Cunningham, the poet:

CHARACTER OF A COUNTRY GIRL'S LIFE.

A country girl! what happiness,
Tipping at dew fall o'er the green,
Rich in herself, not in her dress,
Of quiet look and simple mien!

That sings, while working at the wheel,
Soft strains, untutored and untaught,
Sung so the listener learns to feel
The verses and the voice unsought.

And in the merry month of May,
No bird that fits from tree to tree,
And warbles in its own sweet way,
Can happier or blither be.

Her idle thoughts no wants create,
Her rank she suits unto her mind;
Poor, but content in her estate,
She all things she can wish can find.

Her heart, made up of innocence,
Of quiet thoughts and calm desires,
She looks to as her best defence,
And feels not that she more requires.

In this she puts her strength and trust,
Happy in health, her bread to earn;
Remember she's not living dust,
And that to dust itself she'll turn.

Springs with the lark from out her bed,
With Chaucer's tales to rest;
Here's the purest life that's led,
And her reward will be the best.

THE VILLAGE WATCHMAN'S SONG.

HARK! 'tis ten o'clock!—attend
To the counsel of a friend:
First kneel in prayer, and then to rest.
With conscience clear and tranquil breast,
Sleep sound!—above you starlit blue,
There is an eye will wake for you!

'Tis eleven!—now attend
To the counsel of a friend:
To him who is o'er work delaying,
To him who still at cards is playing,
I say leave off!—to bed repair,
And sleep beneath your Father's care!

Twelve o'clock has struck!—attend
To the counsel of a friend:
O! if there be a wretch still waking,
With heart and brow through sorrow aching,
May Heaven one hour of sleep bestow,
To lull the heart and cool the brow!

One o'clock has struck!—attend
To the counsel of a friend:
O! if deceived by Satan's guile,
There's one abroad on purpose vile—
I do not think that such can be—
Go home!—thy Judge in Heaven must see!

It is three o'clock!—attend
To the counsel of a friend:
Lo! heaven is streak'd with lines of gray—
Let him who hopes a peaceful day,
Breathe forth his prayer of gratitude,
For mind refreshed and strength renewed.

YE MEN OF WISDOM.

BY D. C. COLTS WORTHY.

Ye men of wisdom—men of might,
Why should ye struggle with the clod,
And smother all the glorious light
Within—the blessed gift of God?

He made you in his image, not
To be degraded in the dust—
With fear and misery your lot—
Half eaten with a cankering rust.

Put forth your strength and energies,
And act like steeple men—who feel
That they are piercing the vaulted skies,
Or make earth's deep foundations reel.

Loose not a moment—up—away
Where duty prompts or interest calls—
Determined every foe to slay,
Or die where every brave man falls.

The dust of earth was never made
To be your pillow—'tis your shroud;
And fools alone themselves degrade,
And dare not think or speak aloud.

Up! in your strength, and burst the band
That fetters your immortal mind,
And take a high and glorious stand,
And cast your doubts and fears behind.

LITTLE THINGS.

Scorn not the slightest word or deed,
Nor deem it void of power;
There's fruit in each wind-wafted seed,
Waiting its natal hour.

A whispering word may touch the heart,
And call it back to life;
A look of love bid sin depart,
And still unholiness strife.

No act falls fruitless; none can tell
How vast its power may be;
Nor what results enfolded dwell
Within it, silently.

Work and despair not; give thy mite,
Nor care how small it be;
God will with all that serve the right,
The holy, true and free.

THE DIGNITY OF AGRICULTURE.

[Extract from the Address of Lieut. Gov. D. S. Dickinson, delivered at the Fair of the Queens County Agricultural Society, Oct. 17, 1843.]

"We have the high authority of history, sacred and profane, for declaring that agriculture is a dignified and time-honored calling—ordained and favored of heaven, and sanctioned by experience; and we are invited to its pursuit by the rewards of the past and the present, and the rich promises of the future. While the fierce spirit of embattled legions, has, in its proud triumphs, whelmed nations in blood, and wrapped cities in fire, and filled the land with lamentation and mourning, it has not brought peace or happiness to a single heart—dried the tears of the widows, or hushed the cries of the orphans it has made—bound up or soothed one crushed or broken spirit—nor heightened the joys of domestic or social life, in a single bosom. But how many dark recesses of the earth has agriculture illuminated with its blessings! How many firesides has it lighted up with radiant gladness? How many hearts has it made buoyant with domestic hope? How often, like the good Samaritan, has it alleviated want and misery, while the priest and Levite of power have passed by on the other side? How many family altars, and gathering places of affection has it erected? How many desolate homes has it cheered by its consolations? How have its peaceful and gentle influences filled the land with plenteousness and riches, and made it vocal with praise and thanksgiving?

"It has pleased the benevolent Author of our existence, to set in boundless profusion before us the necessary elements for a high state of cultivation and enjoyment. Blessings cluster around us like fruits of the land of promise, and science unfolds her treasures and invites us to partake, literally without money and without price. The propensities of our nature, as well as the philosophy of our being, serve to remind us that man was formed for care and for labor—for the acquisition and enjoyment of property—for society and government—to wrestle with the elements around him; and that by an active exercise of his powers and faculties alone, can he answer the ends of his creation, or exhibit his exalted attributes. His daily wants, in all conditions of life, prompt him to exertion, and the spirit of acquisition so deeply implanted in the human breast,—that 'ruled through the whole family of man, is the parent of that laudable enterprise which has caused the wilderness to bud and blossom like the rose,—planted domestic enjoyments in the air of the best of prey, and transformed the earth from an uncultivated wild into one vast store-house of subsistence and enjoyment. What can be more acceptable to the patriot or the philanthropist, than to behold the great mass of mankind raised above the degrading influences of tyranny and indolence to the rational enjoyment of the bounties of their Creator? To see in the productions of man's magic powers, the cultivated country—the fragrant meadow—the waving harvest—the smiling garden, and the tasteful dwelling, and himself chastened by the precepts of religion, and elevated by the refinements of science, partaking of the fruits of his own industry, with the proud consciousness that he eats not the bread of idleness or fraud; that his gains are not wet with the tears of misfortune nor wrung from his fellow man by the devices of avarice or extortion; his joys heightened, his sorrows alleviated, and his heart rectified by the cheering voice and heaven-born influences of women! Well may he sit down under his own vine and fig tree without fear of molestation, and his nightly repose be more quiet than that of the stately monarch of the east upon his down of cygnets, or the voluptuous Sybarite upon his bed of roses.

"The prosperity of those engaged in agricultural pursuits, depends not alone upon the successful cultivation of the field, and the judicious management of the farm. These, to be sure, are of primary importance, and indispensable to the success of the undertaking; but there are other subjects which deeply concern their interest and well-being, without a knowledge of which they must fail to enjoy the high station they were destined to occupy in the scale of social and political being.

"The farmer cannot gather grape of thorns, nor figs of thistles; can he reap the fruits of knowledge without its care and cultivation. The vast numerical majority of those engaged in this pursuit, over all others, shows that our moral, social and political condition is in their keeping, is in their keeping. It proves the high privileges they enjoy, as well as the responsibility which rests upon them—privileges which they cannot duly estimate, and responsibilities which they cannot properly discharge without the acquisition of general knowledge, and a high cultivation of the moral powers and faculties. With these, they may raise and sustain their own standard of intelligence, and control, for good or for evil, the destinies of government.

"The mind of the professional man is engaged with his peculiar calling, striving to become eminent and useful, struggling perchance, with rivalry on either hand, and realizing 'how hard it is to climb the steep where fame's proud temple shines from far.' His mental vision is fixed upon a single object. His mind is accustomed to run in grooves fashioned by his pursuit—all else falls upon the sense, and he too often lives and dies the mere creature of his profession. The merchant is buried in commerce, and the mechanic absorbed with inventions and improvements. But to the farmer, devoted to no theories, and wedded to no systems, with the ample volume of nature constantly before him, unfolding her mysteries and spreading out her allurements; the deep fountains of knowledge stand

open, and all combines to inspire him with a love for the sublime and beautiful. The glory of the morning sunbeam, emblem of hope and gladness—the pearly dew which glitters in his pathway—the flowers which smile around him, and the rejoicings of animated nature, tend to fill him with sentiments of love and adoration, and to elevate and refine his heart.

"It is a fallacy no less mischievous than idle, to suppose that there is no learning but the learning of schools, or that, in the phrase of the day, 'getting an education' necessarily requires the individual to abandon, for the time being, all other employments, and devote himself alternately to study and indolence. The pursuits of the farmer, with proper economy and judicious division of time, are consistent with the prosecution of science and the acquisition of knowledge; and of that knowledge, too, which will enable him to discharge all the relations of life with as much prudence, understanding, and fidelity, as him whose only pursuit is study, and which, mingling its streams with the mighty current of human affairs, will teach industry, temperance, and frugality, and carry refinement and intelligence to the lowliest cabin of the plains, and the remotest cottage of the mountains.

"The moral sublimity of the scene is equalled only by the magnitude of our country, the diversity of her interests, and the vastness of her population. When the mind's eye tires with contemplating the untold productions and resources of the Empire State, with her fertile soil—her broad rivers and inland seas—her extensive territory—her magnificent improvements—her boundless commerce, and her institutions of religion, charity, and learning; let it glance for a moment for a more extended view, at the infant giant of the west. The wild horse of the prairie now draws the plough over the soil where erst he was wont to gambol—the bark which bears the hardy emigrant to his distant home, returns deep freighted with the productions of his toil—the shrill war whoop has died away in the hum of busy industry—and shall I add, painful and melancholly as is the reflection, rum, the white man's tomahawk, is fast doing its work of death upon the Pawnee and Sioux of the border. Stricken and persecuted red man! How few are the hearts that will bleed at the recital of your woes, or the tears that will fall around your lowly death bed! Look for the last time upon the little hillocks where you reared or the stream where you sported in childhood, or listened to the shadowy traditions of the past! The mighty warriors of your nation are driven from their rustic firesides—they are hurried to and fro like withered forest leaves before the blasts of autumn, and the few who yet linger will soon cease to tremble! May the deep wrongs which have been visited upon your people, and the wild revenge with which they have been repaid, alike find mercy and forgiveness at the great council fire of eternity, and the red man be ushered into his happy hunting grounds, in a forest of fadness and never-dying beauty.

"It is the high prerogative of the farmer to say who shall administer the various departments of our government, and to indicate its policy. To determine whether the noble ship of state, in which we are all embarked in common, shall ride proudly onward to her port of destination—her anchorage in the harbor of happiness and peace; or whether she shall be torn by the angry and conflicting elements of strife, tossed upon the waves of folly, or wrecked upon the shoals of ambition. The farmer is the first to enjoy the benefits of a wise and just, and to taste the bitter consequences which inevitably flow from an erroneous administration of public affairs. If government is judiciously and economically administered; if industry is not burdened by debt and taxation; if all are protected and more especially favored; its blessings, 'like the dews of heaven,' will descend upon all, unseen and unfeeling, save in the richness and fulness they contribute to produce. But if government, like the monarchies of the old world, is placed beyond, or elevated above the influence or condition of the mass; if it seeks to entrench itself alone with office and patronage, and relies for its strength upon its parasites and placemen, and not upon the affections of the people; it cannot win by its justice, though, for a time, it may terrify by its power.

"Our benign form of government—founded as it is in the mild authority of opinion, and upheld like the broad fabric of social order, only by virtue and intelligence—is emphatically a government of the people—a government of benevolence, humanity and peace. The mighty pulsations of its heart-strings vibrate responsive to the ebbs and flows of popular action and feeling; and so lively is the sympathy and indissoluble is the union, that the errors of the government must necessarily be the errors of the people. It therefore becomes the farmer, next to the cultivation of the field, and the discharge of his domestic and social relations, to possess himself of a thorough knowledge of the economy of human government and of political science. By this, it is not intended to invite to the study of party scrambles—the science of political rewards and punishments—of clamorous partisans for the honors of office or the emoluments of place and station—the patriotic shouts of the latest victors, or the depending tone of those who have just ceased to draw their sustenance from the public treasury; but that true political science, in which the broad and deep foundations of our government are established; which inculcates the pure and elevated sentiments of justice, virtue, equality and the rights of man; which teaches that the success of the people walks hand in hand with their industry and frugality; that all wealth is the production of human labor; that it is the legitimate province of government to protect its citizens in the enjoyment of their industry, but not to attempt

the vain and idle experiment of accumulating for them; that all power or advantage conferred by legislation upon one, is taken from another, or from the mass, and is productive of inequality and injustice; and that any system of government which, in a time of peace, appropriates the industry of its people to any purpose except to insure its own enlightened, humane and economical administration, is unwise and pernicious, and is conducted upon mistaken and erroneous principles."

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF WAR MR. WILKINS, UPON THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

To the People of the Twenty first Congressional District of Pennsylvania.

A Treaty has been signed for the Annexation of Texas to the Territories of the United States, I now feel called upon to state to you, my fellow citizens and late constituents, the ground of my acquiescence in this momentous measure.

I have thought much upon this subject, and endeavored to give it a candid and impartial consideration, which has produced the most decided conviction in my mind, that it is of the highest importance to the welfare and happiness of the whole country, and especially conducive to the great interests of you who so lately honored me with your confidence and support.

To the United States as a nation it gives a compact territory, which is so essential for defence in war, and so useful in peace, by removing all cause of collision arising from infraction of revenue laws, and from disputes about common rights in navigating rivers.

Eight years ago Texas gained her independence on the fields of San Jacinto, and has ever since maintained it. She has been recognized by the first powers of Europe; has preserved the character of an independent and sovereign State through all that time; and is now as thoroughly severed from Mexico as the latter republic is from the kingdom of Spain, to which she belonged not more than twenty-two years ago. I cannot perceive how the right of Texas to negotiate with foreign powers, to form alliances, or to transfer her territory to another government can be questioned. In 1819, we ceded Texas to Spain; in March, 1825, one of the first acts of the new administration, Mr. Adams, Regent of the measure, was the offer to purchase Texas from Mexico, in the face of the solemn protest of Spain, and while war was still pending between that kingdom and its revolted province. The important fortress of San Juan d'Ulloa, which commanded the principal port and almost the entire trade of Mexico, was during all this time in the possession of Spain; and was not finally evacuated until December 23d, 1825.

The naval warfare did not cease for many years afterwards; Spain actually not recognizing the independence of Mexico, until after Texas had established hers. If there be any force in the objection that Texas is still unrecognized by Mexico, it would have been much stronger to the proposed negotiation of Messrs. Adams and Clay, in 1825; for Mexico was then not only unrecognized by Spain, but also by other of the principal powers of Europe. This proposition was made less than six years after we had by solemn treaty ceded Texas to Spain. Nor at this moment is any war pending between Texas and Mexico, other than by paper bulletins, and even this has been suspended by a late armistice. What wrong, then, is done to Mexico? What will she lose? Not Texas! for that is already lost. There will be no loss; Mexico will gain a peaceful and friendly neighbor, having both the will and determination to guaranty the integrity of all her actual territory against any European power. The law of nations authorizes this 'Treaty with Texas, for her independence is recognized and established. Our treaty with Mexico is rescinded by the revolution in Texas, just as our prior Treaty with Spain was abrogated by the successful revolt of Mexico herself. It is not, and never has been, a principle of the law of nations that a revolted province is not fully and absolutely sovereign, until she is recognized by the power from which she has been severed by the revolution. This power must necessarily, be the very last among nations to recognize such independence.

This people were first invited to settle the wild lands of Texas by the King of Spain, and afterwards encouraged in extending their settlements to the very government of Mexico, all under the pledge of the protection of those rights held so dear and sacred by every American. A disregard of those pledges, and an attempt at subjugation, were met on the part of the people of Texas by resistance, and successful revolt, which now constitute them a sovereign and independent people.

The vast territory of nearly three hundred thousand square miles which belongs to Texas, without any conflict with the actual possessions of the Republic of Mexico, starting from the Gulf, is bounded on the South by the noble Rio Bravo del Norte, to the point where that beautiful stream breaks forth from its mountain passes, and from thence north is separated to the westward, from the well known Santa Fe Province, by a strongly defended natural boundary of mountains and prairie country, which, if not unimpassable, will for a long time be left free to the Indian, the buffalo, and the roving trapper.

The most indisputable, proof exists to show that Spain, in 1819, when she sold Florida to the United States, and the latter ceded Texas to Spain, had actually instructed her Minister to acknowledge, if necessary, our title to the whole of Texas as part of the Louisiana territory, purchased by us in 1803.

The question of annexation had been discussed in the various newspapers published over the country. Every one who trusts in the perpetuity of the Union, of which no true American ever doubts, knows that the bonds of connection have strengthened with the increase of territory, and that the confederate system beautifully adapts itself to any extent of country. Local legislation by Congress, or its interference with the strict province of the States, becomes impossible when national objects and interests engross its attention. In a confederacy of great extent, threats of disunion, when confined to so small a sphere as the limits of a single State, carry with them no cause for alarm, and can never instill into the most traitorous bosom any hope of success.

The elevated and mountainous districts of Texas extend on the southwest to within one hundred miles of the Gulf coast. Its high table lands, with its hills, and its valleys, will be best adapted to the growing of grain or raising stock which class of labor is appropriate to the small proprietor and freeman.

The division between the planting and farming districts is marked by the best natural boundaries, and no edict of men can change it. There is neither necessity nor excuse for extending slave labor beyond the alluvial district, bordering on the Gulf and the lower Red River, nor can it ever be so extended by law. The rich lands of this region, running three degrees further south than the best sugar lands of Louisiana must always be settled, if annexed, by a population whose interests will be American.

The section of Texas, which must chiefly be a sugar growing region, and therefore identified with that portion of Louisiana now engaged in the culture, will unite in supporting the great principle of extending full and adequate protection to American products and industry. Sugar is a crop which always looks to the home market for surest sale and most certain return. We shall thus gain in the southwest a most powerful accession of strength upon that great question which deeply involves the interests of your district. I candidly believed that it will not be long before a majority of the people of the South when their labor is thus directed into many different channels, will become convinced of the sound policy of protecting and fostering American industry. This will not only be important and decisive in favor of such action, but will have our institutions—a result to be hailed with gladness by every patriotic breast. I am no advocate for slavery, nor would I see it introduced into one region, unless I were at the same time assured that it would withdraw it from another, and that without increasing it in the aggregate.

The annexation of Texas must soon be followed by the voluntary abolition of the institution of slavery in our neighboring States, Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware, and also, indeed, in Kentucky and Missouri. We can all truly rejoice in its withdrawal from our own immediate vicinity. I am satisfied that the best interests of that class of our fellow beings, originally brought to and forced on, these States by British rapacity and injustice, and who must always be a marked and distinct race, so long as they abide among our people, will be best consulted by securing the only outlet, the only hope which has ever presented itself for their acquiring an independent home or attaining a position elevated and equal to the people amidst whom they dwell. Such a refuge is offered beyond the Rio Bravo, among the Mexican and South American nations, who have no prejudice either as to cast or color.

The treaty is now with the Senate, to be confirmed or rejected. You as a part of the great American family, are called to consider how it affects your own immediate interests as well as those of the nation to which you belong.

The inhabitants of Alleghany county are a mining, manufacturing, commercial, and navigating people. Every interest of those several branches of industry will be vastly promoted by securing to us, under our present tariff, thus extended by annexation, over all its territory, the entire markets of Texas. The Navigation of the Mississippi, furnishing one thousand miles of navigation into the heart of a rich country, now a divided and common right, will then be exclusively our own. To that, add the important rivers of the Trinity, Brazos, Colorado, Rio Bravo del Norte, and many others smaller but navigable streams, and we behold the vast demand from that region, on the boat builders and mechanics of the Ohio Valley, adding at least one hundred steamboats large and small yearly, to the many now built for the wants of Western navigation. Our boats, which will benefit by the great carrying trade between Texas and her sister States, will in return for our manufactures of iron, cotton, wool, hemp, glass etc., and the products of the farms and forests, carried there, receive and bring back her cotton and sugar, her rice and indigo, and, probably, even her coffee and tropical products.

The Santa Fe trade, which has already become so lucrative to many among you, would be cut off from us by a foreign, and by no means necessarily friendly power, whose territories intervene between us and that region, if the treaty should fail to be ratified. The Manchester wagon and Hartley's strong harness, which no longer serve to carry American domestic, and Pittsburg wares across the prairies to be converted at Santa Fe into bullion and Mexican dollars. On the other hand, with our territories bordering on New Mexico, this trade would soon be vastly increased, for a Pittsburgh steamboat, with a small board, can ascend the Santa Fe River to a point, than three hundred miles remote from Santa Fe, and at a distance of five hundred miles from Chihuahua, the first great interior city of the integral provinces of Mexico, which is but slightly

farther than that city is from Santa Fe, the present mart at which our traders meet those from the region of Chihuahua.

To the entire people of the United States, this question is of vast and weighty moment. If the treaty for the annexation should now be rejected, the reaction of feeling in Texas must be intense and overwhelming. She must then inevitably become a commercial dependency in fact, if not in name, of Great Britain. You may rest assured, that even should a free trade treaty not be concluded between England and Texas, that the latter will so modify, and rear her tariff by discriminating duties, augmenting the imposts upon flour, grain, beef, pork, lard, and such articles; whilst taking off those on iron, and all its manufactures, glass, cotton bagging, and all cotton and woollen fabrics and similar articles; thereby excluding American products and admitting England's free duty. Such is the avowed policy of Texas, as a separate republic, and thus, even without a treaty with England, that country will monopolize her markets.

But it will not end here. Texas, like Gibraltar and Portugal, will be made the entrepot and channel of British commerce, by means of which her active merchants will in defiance of all imposts and tariffs, not only flood the interior of Mexico with British wares, through the channels of the Trinity, Sabine and Red River, glut our own country with a multiplicity of every kind of her extensive manufactures, breaking up our very best establishments and carrying ruin and bankruptcy into every manufacturing district of the United States.

The imposts which we must receive from abroad, instead of being brought, as they now chiefly in American vessels in our ports, will, to escape the duties, be carried to Texas to be smuggled into the United States. This will impair, if not destroy, our great navigating interests on the high seas, which it has always been the policy of our government to foster. This was clearly foreseen by Mr. Van Buren, who, in his despatch to Mr. Poinsett, the American Minister to Mexico, on the 25th of August, 1829, the very first year of General Jackson's administration, directly alludes to this question of smuggling, when instructing that Minister to endeavor to procure the annexation of Texas to the Union by a purchase and cession from Mexico.

But the evil does not cease with the injury to the shipping interest; our revenues from imposts, or foreign commerce, necessarily falling short of the wants of government, we shall be forced to resort to direct taxation to support and maintain the government.

In 1830, our exports to Texas, which was then recognized by no other power, amounted to one and three quarter millions of dollars; but now, instead of having doubled with her population, they have dwindled down to two hundred thousand dollars in value; being not one seventh of what they were in 1830. In that year, these exports to Texas embraced over one fourth of the total exports of our manufactures to all the rest of the world. The home as the best market for our manufactures, and when such markets can be extended with honor and propriety, it would be madness in the advocate for the protection of domestic industry to oppose such an extension. These markets are beyond the influence of foreign diplomacy, or the rivalry and jealousy of other nations, and must remain forever exclusively our own.

Should Texas be refused admission into the Union, she must become a most dangerous theatre for foreign intrigue, from which the most deplorable consequences to our welfare may ensue. Indeed, at some future and not distant day, we may be compelled, for the safety and perpetuity of the Union, to gain by conquest what is now so freely offered to our acceptance.

But with the coast of Texas added to ours, we should then have nearly the entire shore of our own great sea, the Gulf of Mexico, and would then not only be beyond the reach of smugglers, but would also set at defiance any attempt at invasion directed against New Orleans or the great outlet of the commerce of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

Now, my fellow citizens, having given you my views on this subject, let me recall your attention, without reference to Florida, to the acquisition of Louisiana, without which we should not at this moment be the united and happy people which constitute this great nation. Yet that noble purchase was not without opposition of a decided, and indeed most violent character, however, no patriot of that day lives to regret that addition to our territories.

I am fellow citizens, your grateful and obliged friend,
WM. WILKINS.
Washington, April 13, 1844.

From the (London) Britania. EUROPE IN 1844.

"Near approach of the session of Parliament has a new interest to a glance at the general condition of Europe. It is remarkable that no material change of importance has occurred during the past year. Spain is the only exception; yet even that is more nominal than real. One faction has displaced another. It is the change of a Cabinet. The constitution has remained—the throne has been unshaken. Espartero, a bold and vigorous officer, has been displaced; Narvaez, a bold and vigorous officer, has been raised almost to an equal elevation. The Queen in prospect has become the Queen in possession. The old machinery moves on an old principle, but with a new manager. The old gilded coach of royalty is drawn by the same sinews, and attended by the same liveries. The hand that holds the whip and the reins is changed—until out.

France is colonizing, talking of commercial treaties, frightening the Bey of Tunis, and marching and countermarching in Algiers. She was doing the same a twelve-month ago. Nothing is changed. Louis Philippe is still guarded by battalions and gendarmes makes speeches of the most royal generalities at the beginning of the session, and is rejoiced when he can leave Paris and his badlands behind him, and retire to his gardens at Neuilly; promises the world peace and takes care that the Parisians shall not break it;—surrounds his capital with a chain of fortresses that would powder the Faubourg St.

Antoine, into the dust of its own lanes and would extinguish the reign of Porte Cochere at the first volley. M. Guizot is master of the chambers; M. Odillon Barret is in hopeless opposition. M. Thiers is writing a history which will be as angry, volatile and short lived as his own administration; and M. Lamartine is sitting with his finger in his mouth and his eyes turned backward to the Tuilleries. But all this was the same a twelve-month ago. Nothing is changed but the number of the year. The almanac is the only girouette.

Austria has slept. Her only sign of life is an occasional start in her sleep, a cry in which the name of Italy is distinguishable, a shudder when the Russian bear seems to walk across her dreams, and a smile when she murmurs the name of Hungarian Liberty. Prince Metternich sits beside her and rocks her cradle; if she yawns, he wraps her up again, rocks the cradle, and sings her to sleep. He is the most experienced nurse in Europe; but he was the same this time twelve-month. Austria grows corpulent in the quietest manner of any government of Europe. But nothing else is changed.

Russia is hunting deserters, dungeoning smugglers and squeezing the Jews. But all this she has been doing for the last half century. She has been conquering deserts of rock, provinces of sand, and mountains snow. Her Emperor, the most active of mankind, is building fleets in the Baltic, which the frost shuts up during a six months' winter, and which the worm rots during the rest of the year. He sends an armed army into Circassia which never returns, builds fortresses which are always taken, and publishes a new and infallible plan of campaign which regularly fails. He has the most showy guard in Europe, supplies Petersburg with the best opera, and lies down every night in his boots, and sleeps with pistols under his pillow. But this is routine. During the last twelve-month the Emperor has changed nothing but his pantaloons, and the Emperor is Russia.

Portugal is a wine-house; a guinette of the south; an ill-ordered cafe, with yellow-visaged waiters and nothing more. The house is kept by the same family, the same royal sign hangs over the door, and the wine is neither better nor worse. The English Minister has attempted to lower the price, and raise the quality; but as this was unprecedented, and as Portugal has long continued to sell its wine which no other nation of Europe would drink, she threatened us with loss of custom. John Bull listens in terror, and lest Portugal should have a single vintage on her hands he takes it at her own terms. But this has been done by John Bull for the last hundred years.—Nothing is changed in Portugal.

Prussia is ploughing her sandy soil, navigating her shallow rivers, and speculating on being made a great commercial nation with but a single port in her dominions. She maintains an army large enough for the guardianship of Europe, for the protection of a territory of ten millions of souls. She is honest, brave and loyal, but foolish in her picks. Knives and scissors are beyond her power—they ought to be beyond her ambition. By great effort she may produce a pitchfork, but no change of fortune will ever enable her to produce a scythe. Yet she has been wasting her time, thought, and timber trees on this extravagant hope for the last fifty years. In Prussia nothing has changed except the maids of honour.

Belgium, Holland, Switzerland—is it of any importance to any living being whether they have or have not changed? While the line of battle ships remain at anchor, who cares where or how the wherries, lighters, and bombosats are engaged? When the men-of-war hoist sail, the small craft must fly or follow. In Europe nothing has changed.

CHANGING.

The Baltimore Republican states that the Hon. David Stewart, lately a whig member of the Maryland Senate, from Baltimore city, came out publicly a short time since at a democratic meeting and gave in his adhesion to democratic measures. He took an active part in favor of Harrison in 1840; now he avows uncompromising opposition to Henry Clay and whig principles as developed by the hard cider Congress of 1840.

T. Jernagan, Esq., of Mishawaka, Ohio, who was a noted leader in the Harrison ranks in 1840, lately addressed the democratic association in that township, declared his conversion to democracy. "He took occasion to allude to his former political views, and to the reasons which had influenced him to forsake his political associates, and take a place in the ranks of democracy.—He stated that he acted under a firm and sincere belief that the charges alleged against Mr. Van Buren's administration were true; and that the whig leaders were honest in their profession of a determination, if they succeeded, of reforming the abuses complained of in the administration. But in this he had been greatly disappointed.—The leaders of the whig party, so far from redeeming the pledges they had made, used every means in their power to fasten upon the country measures which previous to their election they did not and dared not avow. He was disappointed and disgusted with the course pursued by the whig leaders, and became satisfied, upon mature reflection and investigation, that the charges which had been alleged against Mr. Van Buren and the democratic party, were as baseless as the promises of the whigs. He was thus led to examine carefully the principles which divide the two parties, and the result was, that as soon as he arrived at conclusions satisfactory to his reason and his conscience, he found himself in a position identified with the democratic party."

The Arkansas Intelligencer, published at Van Buren in that state, heretofore a neutral paper, has come out boldly on the democratic side, and is doing battle fearlessly and effectively against whiggery.

The Banner of Lamoille, a whig print, started about two months ago at Johnson Lamoille county, Vt., has been discontinued for want of patronage. The editor was a clergyman, who disgraced his calling by putting on the livery of a debauchee, gambler and duellist. We trust for the credit of the profession he has not resumed his clerical robes.

The Times and Advocate, published at Little Rock, Arkansas, the oldest whig paper in that State, has quit the service of Clay, and now has the names of Van Buren and Polk at the head of its columns as its chosen candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, MAY 7, 1844.

"The great popular party is already rallied almost en masse around the banner which is leading the party to its final triumph. The few that still lag will soon be rallied under its ample folds. On that banner is inscribed: FREE TRADE; LOW DUTIES; NO LEFT; SEPARATION FROM ROME; ECONOMY IN EXPENDITURE; AND STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION. Victory in such a cause will be great and glorious; and if its principles be faithfully and firmly adhered to, after it is achieved, much will it redound to the honor of those by whom it will have been won, and long will it perpetuate the liberty and prosperity of the country."—*Calhoun.*

VIRGINIA ELECTION.

Both sides claim the victory in the late election of Virginia. Both, however, cannot be right. The election was for State Officers—members of the House of Burgesses, Senators, and two Congress men. The House of Delegates consists of 131 members. We have returns from about half the State, which gives the Democrats 34 and the Whigs 50 members. Last year from the same places, 44 Democrats and 40 Whigs. This shows a gain for the Whigs; but it is Whig authority, and must therefore be received with many grains of allowance.

Among the 8 Senators to be elected, the Whigs, so far as heard from, have elected four, the Democrats one.

Two members of Congress were to be elected in the districts represented by Wise and the popular and lamented Gilmer. The Whigs claim the election of Goggin, W., in Gilmer's District. In Wise's District it is doubtful whether a Whig or a Democrat is elected.

This news is somewhat unfavorable to the Democrats, but we should remember that but a moiety of the returns had come in, and those from the strong Federal portions of the State.

Our Democratic papers all speak of this State as certain for Van Buren, and say if the Whigs do succeed in getting a majority in the House or Senate, the popular vote will certainly be in favor of Democracy on the Presidential election. The result is doubtful. We hope the next news will change the face of affairs.

THE TREATY.—The Annexation Treaty has been made out, signed by Calhoun, Van Zant, and Henderson, and presented with other accompanying documents to the Senate. The Senate have referred it to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. The Treaty merely provides for the annexation of Texas as a Territory, and assumes her debts to the amount of ten millions of dollars, while the whole public domain is held as a pledge for the payment of the Debt.

Mr. Clay's recent letter on the subject of annexing Texas to this Republic has been received. It confirms what we have heretofore heard in relation to his opinions on this subject. It is strongly opposed to annexation. He assumes the position that annexation is war, because a war with Mexico will be sure to follow annexation. This is able and explicit. We shall not attempt a review of its contents; but as it comes from a strong opponent to the views of the present Administration, and from the acknowledged head of a great political party, we shall publish it entire in our next. The arguments against annexation are here presented in their strongest light, and by comparing them with others in favor, will have a good opportunity of basing their united judgment on the facts in the case.

MR. VAN BUREN ON TEXAS.

Mr. Van Buren's letter on this subject has likewise been received. None of our exchanges of Saturday contain the letter entire; consequently we shall defer its publication till next week. The part of the letter came to hand treats entirely of the Constitutional power to admit Texas. Mr. Van Buren, after presenting all the facts which bear either directly or indirectly upon the case, comes to the conclusion that the Treaty making power granted by the Constitution is amply sufficient to admit and annex new territory to the Union.

ANNEXATION IN BANGOR.

A meeting was called in Bangor several weeks ago in relation to this subject, which originated with the Whigs. The notice for the meeting explains the object. It was to "Remonstrate against the dangerous project," in the words of the notice. Several citizens met, discussed the matter and adjourned for a week. They met again, and at the request of some members in favor of Annexation, they all agreed to meet the following week; and those who called the meeting first, who were utterly opposed to annexation, agreed to meet them in favor, and have a full and fair discussion of the question. On some evenings the Mayor presided, and all things passed along quietly, but on others there was considerable noise and confusion.—Finally they discussed the matter as long as was deemed necessary, and then took a vote on the subject, which resulted in a majority in favor of Annexation.

So Senator Fairfield has presented a Memorial from two hundred citizens of Bangor in favor of Annexation.

A Remonstrance has been prepared to send from that City. These are indications of the importance of the question, the excitement it is producing, and the expression of the popular voice.

GEN. JACKSON.—The old Hero is better. He has so far recovered from his late indisposition as to be able to take gentle exercise about his farm.

In aged Elm.—The big Elm on Boston Common is 175 years old. It was set out by Capt. Henchman near the year 1670.

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives refused to take up the Resolutions against the Annexation of Texas by a large majority.

THE OPINION OF GREAT MEN.

The opinion of great men is always valuable, when deliberately formed and voluntarily expressed. The opinion of the following gentlemen in relation to Mr. Clay, are neither flattering to his pride or agreeable to his friends. So far as the latter are concerned, Clay's own opinions, to many of them at least, must be gall and wormwood. No wonder, in view of such sentiments, that the great Whig Oracle (the Boston Atlas) should have said "Mr. Clay has too many 'heresies' to ever be a successful candidate for the Presidency." Will our Whig friends just read the following:—

JACKSON'S OPINION OF CLAY.

"Under such circumstances, how contemptible does this demagogue appear, when he descends from his high place in the Senate, and raves about the country, railing slander upon the living and the dead?"

WEBSTER'S OPINION OF CLAY.

"Henry Clay has too many heresies about him even to gain my support."

JEFFERSON'S OPINION OF CLAY.

"Henry Clay," said Jefferson, "is merely a splendid orator, without any valuable knowledge from experience or study, or any determined public principles, founded in political science, either practical or theoretical."

HARRISON'S OPINION OF CLAY.

"I will do my duty, even if Mr. Clay is to be benefited by it, from whom I have experienced only ungenerous treatment in requital for years of devoted service."

RANDOLPH'S OPINION OF CLAY.

"He is talented but corrupt. He stinks and shines, and shines and stinks, like a rotten mackerel by moonlight."

MR. CLAY'S OPINION OF FARMERS.

"Agriculture needs no protection. The habits of Farmers, generation after generation, pass down a long track of time, in perpetual succession, without the slightest change; and the ploughman who fastens his plough to the tail of his cattle will not own there is any improvement equal to his."

MR. CLAY ON PROTECTION.

"Carry out the principles of the Compromise Act. Look to revenue alone for the support of Government. Do not raise the question of protection, which I had hoped had been put to rest. There is no necessity for protection."—*Ed.*

Hon. DIXON H. LEWIS.—It is reported at Washington, that Mr. Lewis has been appointed to fill the place of Hon. W. R. King, recently appointed Minister to France. Mr. Lewis may safely be reckoned among the ponderable babies, for he weighs somewhat over 400 pounds. A new chair it is said has been constructed for his especial use in the Senate. So it appears that he will not only occupy the seat of Mr. King, but more than fill it.

Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, Member of Congress from the 6th District, has been quite indisposed. His friends will be happy to learn that he has so far recovered as to resume his seat in the House. So says the Globe.

A correspondent of the American, whom we presume to be a gentleman from this County, writes from New Orleans saying that "Judge Elliott was a Whig, and the confidential advisor of the 'Clay Club' of that city." So it seems we were right after all. It will be remembered that Judge Elliott was the man who was lately impeached for giving illegal naturalization papers.

The trial of Gov. Dorr for Treason progresses slowly. Mr. Dorr, with the assistance of another legal gentleman, defends himself. The merits of the case, at the latest accounts, had not been entered upon. Every Democrat has been set aside on the Jury.

Cuba.—Information has been received by way of New York that the insurrection at Cuba had been quelled and order restored.

We learn that Mr. Clay has been nominated for the Presidency, and Mr. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, for the Vice Presidency, by the Whigs. They held their Convention at Baltimore last week.

EXHIBITION OF CLAY.—The Charleston Mercury remarks as follows:—

"We felt sensibly the degradation of our Republican Institutions on Friday last, when we saw a veteran, as Mr. Clay is, in the service of his country, hawked about as some great beast of wonder, to catch a few votes, for that station which should be the reward alone of the lofty patriot and pure statesman."

ANOTHER PROPHECY.—The last prophet which has risen is one Keyl, a German, said to be from Pittsburg, who has taken up his residence in Columbia county, Ohio, and impudently styles himself "Christ." He has already a number of followers, whom he calls his witnesses, that he sends out to preach. It is stated they have made great disturbances in Columbia county; particularly in Rev. A. Hunt's congregation, (Lutheran or German Reform.) On one occasion, Keyl was presented and declared himself to be the "Christ," that he had come to make preparations to judge the world, that no one could touch his person, without his permission, uttering denunciations against all who dared oppose him. On another occasion he requested all who believed him to be Christ to rise at his feet. A majority of those present rose, an old lady among the rest, who to give special evidence of her faith, cried out "Thou art truly the Christ!" What a lamentable exhibition of human weakness!

The Nantucket girls are full of inventions. They first introduced the fashions of knitting at Lyceum meetings and now they have got up a new kind that is working wonders. When a young man says to one of them as she returning from a party, "will you take my arm?" "La, yes? and you too, seeing it's leap year," is the immediate reply. The Sailor boys there never done their courting so easily before since the island was inhabited!

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW.

April 23d.—In the Senate, a message was received from the President concerning the long expected Texan Treaty, and the Senate immediately proceeded to consider it with closed doors. Of its provisions nothing of course is as yet certainly known; the Washington letter writers essentially agree in their surmises as to its main features; these we noticed in our last. There appear to be conflicting opinions as to the prospect of its ratification by the Senate.—On the same day, in the House, a motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of taking up the Tariff bill prevailed by a vote of 101 to 94; one whig, Mr. Chappell, of Georgia, voted with the majority, and in the negative were two democrats from Maine, five from New York, nine from Pennsylvania and one from New Jersey. These two questions, the Texan annexation and the Tariff now occupy the exclusive attention of the two Houses.

April 23d.—In the House, occurred the disgraceful scene between Ex-Speaker White, of Kentucky, and Mr. Rathbun, of New York, an account of which is given in another part of our paper. Both gentlemen made apologies to the House for their conduct, and shook hands in token of reconciliation. The matter has been disposed of for the present by the appointment of a committee of investigation. Petitions for the annexation of Texas and remonstrances against that measure pour into both Houses from every quarter of the Union.—N. E. Democrat.

THE CONGRESSIONAL FIGHT.

We have reason to hope that Congress will make a signal example of those connected with the late most disgraceful fight on the floor of the House. Both the members should be forthwith expelled. We believe that one is a whig and the other a democrat; but we ask no special privilege for the latter. Let him go. The government can be faithfully administered without the aid of bullies;—if it cannot, then it isn't worth preserving. We say emphatically—let Congress take hold of this matter with a strong hand.—The usual custom of passing resolutions of censure amounts to nothing. All parties laugh at it. They regard it—and so do the people—as an idle matter of form, and of not the slightest sort of consequence. If Congress cannot, or will not, take stronger action, they may as well let the thing alone, and when the fight occurs just clear a ring and see it out. But we have had enough of this bar-room bullism, and the people are beginning to think it full time to put a stop to it.—Portland American.

The Globe gives a long account of this affair, from which we copy. It seems that Mr. Rives, one of the editors was present. Some exciting question being before the House—

Mr. Rathbun said to Mr. White, "Never mind, we can prove it all over the House." Mr. White replied, "You can prove a d—d lie, then; swallow that, d—d you." Mr. Rathbun rose and, with his thumbs in the pockets of his pantaloons, and turning round to Mr. White, said, "Do you intend to apply the lie to me personally?" To which Mr. White replied, "I do, Go! d—n you!" shutting his fists and putting himself in a defensive or offensive position, as he said so. By the time the words were out of his mouth, both of them had aimed a blow at each other. We could not discern which struck first. As soon as we saw this, we ran to where they were, but before we reached there they had been separated. We entered the aisle where the combatants were, side by side with the sergeant-at-arms. The members ordered the sergeant-at-arms out in a menacing manner, some of them putting their hands against him. While they were doing this, we have been told, a man named Moore, who resides in the Lexington congressional district of Kentucky, was behind the sergeant-at-arms, trying to pull him out, and saying at the same time, "let them fight it out."—We neither saw nor heard this. Our attention was drawn, at the time, to the members in front of the sergeant-at-arms, who were ordering him out of the bar of the House. We thought if the sergeant-at-arms was out of his place, or exceeding his duty, that we had better keep a bright look out else we might be ejected very suddenly. By the time we thought this much, we concluded to get out of the bar of the House; and as we got out near the door that enters the hall from the post office of the House, we saw the flush and heard the report of a pistol in the doorway. We rushed to the door, and found three or four persons just outside the door, grappling with the Kentucky whom we have mentioned, trying to wrest from him a pistol. As he appeared to "hold his own" with them, we concluded to assist them; and as we were about doing so, a voice at our side said, "Take me Mr. Rives for I am wounded." We at once recognized the person who spoke, to be Mr. Isaac H. Wailes, one of the police of the Capitol. We took hold of him, and found that he had been shot through his right thigh, near where it joins the body. Two men assisted us to take him to his house, about 300 yards from the Capitol. On his way thither, he informed us that, hearing a disturbance in the House of Representatives, he thought it to be his duty to go in and assist in quelling it; that, as he entered nearest the post office, Mr. McCauslen, a member of Congress from Ohio, was putting the Kentucky before mentioned out at it; that as soon as he was put out, he drew a pistol from his breast and attempted to shoot Mr. McCauslen, who was just then inside the House, while he, Mr. Wailes, was in the door; that some person at that moment took hold of the man who had the pistol, and turned him so much, that he shot him, (Wailes) who was by one of the checks of the door.

By the time we got Mr. Wailes home, we ascertained that his thigh bone was not broken; and we returned to the Capitol immediately, to look for our hat, which we left there, with several letters in it. On reaching there, we found the hat, the letters safe, peace reigning; and we soon afterwards left there for our home. We think it proper to state, in conclusion, that we heard part of the "words" which passed between Mr. Rathbun and Mr. White; and those which we did not hear are vouched for by persons who did hear them.

SHORT.

"No office can be held that holds it c—d."

This is much by Agassius, who obscure place is thought, "senior to the m—"

There have in some country, and office the difference of grades of animals not grown wild informed. To be a property as well in secular transic circumstances. Office that is fitted for requisite qualifications in solvency appears very nice, only elevation of his deficiencies for office like every be taken as a public trust which rational sees no public honors—rate those mar bestowed volun but the vexat anxieties, and to a career of riches than the made to secure are apt to turn Rome for the patriotism. Many character the aid of a little of fault. But tious every who and virtuous, b strive to disting their vices an might have be vate life, has cule and cont which he was will improve bence, while o series of blund ements of gre aimed at, is j al and philosop confers neither it may be decri that are unwor sought after; a man may not b call of his cou to a station of dence; and w otherwise, acc incumbent. I to overthrow h his abilities ca ond his ambit to follow his e more ruinous success.

A prudent reluctance an rather than office can giv he that holds te any office."

REMARKS brought before Louisiana, wh allegations obtained, a histe ship and app suit is brought in her petition many, of hon —that her p soon after the too young to seized by Mil natural liberty negroes and she has been twenty year Miller's overs been made s 1833 to the bondage. T Miller are la brought again the object of Able counsel to be condu

BIRD MEET Farmer, that Harvard, Ap by a choice of Little Tom— being called strains of p distinguished tions were v nem con. T to the attent Resolved, ard, are mos treated and b and murder v fore our you And all good sired, most solve of the fa to any young

1994